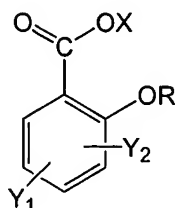


CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating a condition selected from the group consisting of skin requiring desquamation, nail disorders, dandruff, calluses, acne, excess sebum production, enlarged skin pore size, and blackheads, comprising contacting an area of affected skin with a composition having an effective amount of a halosalicylic acid compound of formula I,



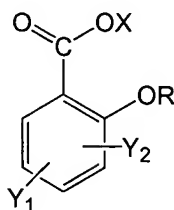
- wherein X is hydrogen or a cosmetically acceptable cation; R is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl or C₁-C₁₈ alkyl substituted with at least one Cl, Br, F or I group; and Y₁ and Y₂ are, independently, hydrogen, Cl, Br, F, I, methyl substituted by one to three Cl, Br, F, or I groups, phenyl, or phenyl substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, Cl, Br, F and I; with the proviso that at least one of Y₁ and Y₂ is Cl, Br, F or I; and a cosmetically acceptable vehicle for the halosalicylic acid compound.

2. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition contains the halosalicylic acid compound in an amount of about 0.001% to about 10% by weight, based on total weight of the composition.
3. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition contains the halosalicylic acid compound in an amount of about 0.01% to about 5% by weight, based on total weight of the composition.
4. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition contains the halosalicylic acid compound in an amount of about 0.1% to about 2.5% by weight, based on total weight of the composition.

5. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition contains the halosalicylic acid compound in an amount of about 0.5% to about 2% by weight, based on total weight of the composition.
6. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is selected from the group consisting of 5-chlorosalicylic acid, 5-fluorosalicylic acid, 5-bromosalicylic acid, 5-iodosalicylic acid and mixtures thereof.
7. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the compound of formula I is 5-chlorosalicylic acid.
8. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition further contains salicylic acid.
9. The method as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the salicylic acid is present in an amount of about 0.5% to about 2% by weight, based on total weight of the composition, the halosalicylic acid compound is 5-chlorosalicylic acid, and the 5-chlorosalicylic acid is present in an amount of about 0.5% to about 2% by weight, based on total weight of the composition.
10. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition further contains an RAR/RXR agonist.
11. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition further contains a 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor.
12. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition further contains an RAR/RXR agonist and a 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor.

13. The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the RAR/RXR agonist is present in an amount of about 0.0001% to about 50% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 5 14. The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the RAR/RXR agonist is present in an amount of about 0.01% to about 20% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 10 15. The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the RAR/RXR agonist is present in an amount of about 0.5% to about 5% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 15 16. The method as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor is present in an amount of about 0.01% to about 5% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 20 17. The method as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor is present in an amount of about 0.1% to about 0.5% by weight, based on the total weight of the composition.
- 25 18. The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the RAR/RXR agonist is selected from the group consisting of phytol, isophytol, phytol derivatives, isophytol derivatives, retinoids, and mixtures thereof.
- 30 19. The method as claimed in Claim 10, wherein the RAR/RXR agonist is phytol, retinol or a mixture thereof.
20. The method as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the 5-alpha-reductase inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of oleanolic acid, saw palmetto, finasteride, and mixtures thereof.

21. The method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the composition further contains an anti-ageing active ingredient.
22. The method of Claim 1, wherein the condition is skin requiring dequamation.
23. The method of Claim 1, wherein the condition is enlarged skin pore size.
24. The method of Claim 1, wherein the condition is excess sebum production.
25. The method of Claim 1, wherein the condition is acne or blackheads.
26. A cosmetic composition comprising an effective amount of a halosalicylic acid compound of formula I,



wherein X is hydrogen or a cosmetically acceptable cation; R is hydrogen, C₁-C₁₈ alkyl or C₁-C₁₈ alkyl substituted with at least one Cl, Br, F or I group; and Y₁ and Y₂ are, independently, hydrogen, Cl, Br, F, I, methyl substituted by one to three Cl, Br, F, or I groups, phenyl, or phenyl substituted by at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₁₈ alkyl, Cl, Br, F and I; with the proviso that at least one of Y₁ and Y₂ is Cl, Br, F or I; and a cosmetically acceptable vehicle for the halosalicylic acid compound.